



## SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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### DDC NOTES – FEBRUARY 2008

**Report of DDC Meeting held in January** – The Council met in Pierre and approved funding for Youth Leadership Forum 2008, Public Information & Awareness, College of Direct Support, and Mobilizing for Self-Advocacy. Next deadline for Mini-Grant applications is March 31, 2008. Forms are available on the Council's website or by contacting the Council Office.

**New Member Needed for DD Council** – The Council has one position open for a person with developmental disabilities. There is an information packet and form to complete that is available on the Council's website or by calling the Council Office.

**College of Direct Support** – The Council continues to support this on-line training initiative for direct support professionals, parents and people with developmental disabilities. To learn more about this program, check out their website at <http://info.collegeofdirectsupport.com/>. You can even try a sample lesson to see how it works. This program would be beneficial for teachers, paraprofessionals, social workers, nurses, and many others. For more information on South Dakota's implementation of the College of Direct Support, contact Eileen Van Soest at [Eileen.VanSoest@usd.edu](mailto:Eileen.VanSoest@usd.edu) or 1-800-658-3080.

*The following items may be of interest – inclusion in DDC Notes does not constitute endorsement by the Council.*

#### **ADA Best Practices Tool Kit**

The Department of Justice's newly updated ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments includes useful information and checklists and can be found at <http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm>.

**VSA arts Launches Web Site for Teachers & Parents** – a new online resource, [www.startwiththearts.org](http://www.startwiththearts.org) provides access to information and activities related to the VSA arts educational resource Start with the Arts ©. The site offers arts-based learning tools that emphasize ways in which the arts help children, including children with disabilities, to learn together and succeed. VSA arts invites teachers and parents to explore how Start with the Arts © can create inclusive learning experiences for children in their communities.

**Interagency Coordinating Council Developed for Emergency Preparedness** - The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties oversees the implementation of Executive Order 13347, Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness, which was signed by President Bush in July 2004. The Executive Order created an Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities. The ICC is comprised of senior leadership from more than 20 Federal departments and agencies. Its mission is to ensure that people with disabilities and their specific needs are fully integrated into all aspects of our nation's emergency management system; including mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The Council has concentrated its work in eight major areas: Emergency Communications; Emergency Preparedness in the Workplace; Emergency Transportation; Health; Private Sector Coordination; Research; State, Local and Tribal Government Coordination; and Technical Assistance and Outreach. For more information about the ICC please visit [www.disabilitypreparedness.gov](http://www.disabilitypreparedness.gov).

**NEW REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY RECOMMENDS BEST PRACTICES FOR EMPLOYERS AND POLICY MAKERS IN CREATING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE**

**WITH DISABILITIES IN AMERICA** - Only 38% of people with disabilities are employed in America and two-thirds of those unemployed say they prefer to be working. A new report from the National Council on Disability (NCD) summarizes current knowledge on the employment of people with disabilities in a series of 12 issue briefs based on feedback from employers, people with disabilities, and disability specialists. The report also includes findings from two focus groups and public forums. To read *Empowerment for Americans with Disabilities: Breaking Barriers to Careers and Full Employment*, visit [http://www.ncd.gov/newsroom/publications/2007/NCDEmployment\\_20071001.htm](http://www.ncd.gov/newsroom/publications/2007/NCDEmployment_20071001.htm).

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\* FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE for People with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families** – The Council has set-aside funding for *BOTH in-state and OUT-OF-STATE travel assistance for the upcoming fiscal year*. A limited amount of funds are available. Guidelines and application forms can be requested from the Council Office or found at the Council's web site. Limited funds are also available for recreation opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS**

Mar 3-5, 2008	Pierre, Mid Winter Rehab Conference
Mar 4, 2008	Pierre, Governor's Awards Luncheon
Mar 5-8, 2008	Aberdeen, Presentation College's Social Work Program - Abilities Awareness Week
Mar 5, 2008	Aberdeen, FILM – Freedom Machine
Mar 6, 2008	Aberdeen, FILM – David and Lisa
Mar 7, 2008	Aberdeen, Social Work Luncheon and Workshop – Ripple Effect: Overcoming the stigma of mental illness
Mar 7, 2008	Aberdeen, FILM – Rainman
Mar 8, 2008	Aberdeen, FILM – Bill On His Own
Mar 16-18, 2008	Pierre – Statewide Special Education Conference - Cultivating Success
Mar 19, 2008	Sioux Falls – Network 2008 – Inclusion Expo (focused on young adults with disabilities ages 15 and older)
Mar 27, 2008	Aberdeen – Catch the Wave Post-Secondary Experience
Mar 27, 2008	Rapid City – Catch the Wave Post-Secondary Experience
Apr 12, 2008	Sioux Falls – DD Network Listening Session
Apr 22, 2008	Brookings – Catch the Wave Post-Secondary Experience
Apr 24-26, 2008	Sioux Falls – SDAEYC/SDHSA Annual Conference – Guiding Young Children's Futures
Apr 28-29, 2008	Sioux Falls – Spring Autism Conference – Teaching Social and Verbal Skills to Young Children with Autism
May 2-3, 2008	Aberdeen – 2008 Parent & Provider Conference – Giggle, Grin and Grow, Family Child Care Professionals of SD
May 17-18, 2008	Huron - SD Outdoor Expo
June 2, 2008	Sioux Falls – Learning Disabilities Conference
June 8-10, 2008	Pierre – Dare to Dream 2008 Conference – What Makes a Full Life?
June 12-13, 2008	Sioux Falls – Lighting the Way Conference (autism)
June 15-19, 2008	Aberdeen – Youth Leadership Forum
July 20-22, 2008	Sioux Falls – Midwest Conference on Deaf Education – “Young Minds Under Construction: Providing Deaf and Hard of Hearing with Tools for Success”

For more information check out the Council's Calendar of Events on our web site – [www.state.sd.us/dhs/ddc](http://www.state.sd.us/dhs/ddc) .

## **FUTURE ISSUES OF DDC NOTES**

- If you receive this via regular mail and want to receive it by e-mail, let me know and I'll make that change.
- If you no longer want to receive this information, let me know and I'll take you off the list.
- If you know of others who may be interested, please share this with them or have them contact me to be added to the mailing list.

Inclusion of information in DDC Notes is not an endorsement of the activity. If you have questions about any of the information provided, please contact the Council at – Hillsvie Plaza, E. Hwy 34, c/o 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501 or 605-773-6369 or 1-800-265-9684 or by email at [arlene.poncelet@state.sd.us](mailto:arlene.poncelet@state.sd.us).